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Modest Maryland 2002 Crop Production

Corn Production Lowest in 14 Years

Maryland: Drought devastated 2002 corn and soybean production, while hay and tobacco production was below average according to the Annual Crop Production Report released by the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service. Information for the report was gathered from more than 700 Maryland farmers during December.

Corn for grain production totaled 32.3 million bushels, down 42 percent from 2001's production of 55.8 million bushels. The 2002 corn for grain yield averaged 76 bushels per acre, 60 bushels per acre lower than 2001's yield of 136 bushels per acre. This year's corn for grain yield was the lowest since 1988. Corn for grain was harvested on 425,000 acres. **Corn for silage** production was 960 thousand tons, 15 percent less than in 2001. Corn for silage was harvested from 80,000 acres in 2002, up 5,000 from last year, but production was offset by a lower yield of 12 tons per acre.

Soybean production is 10.8 million bushels, down 46 percent from last year and the lowest production level since 1987. Yield was 23 bushels per acre, also the lowest since 1987, and down 16 bushels from 2001's 39 bushels per acre. Soybeans were harvested from only 470,000 acres, down 9 percent from last year. Dry conditions during planting limited acreage and wet fields prevented some acreage from being harvested.

Alfalfa hay production for 2002 was 156,000 tons, down 23 percent from 2001's production level of 202,000 tons. Alfalfa hay yield was 2.6 tons per acre, down 0.5 tons per acre from 2001. **All other hay yield** averaged 2.2 tons per acre, up 0.2 tons per acre from a year ago. All other hay production totaled 352,000 tons, an increase of 10 percent from 2001's level. First cutting yields were generally good, offsetting the lower yields in later cuttings.

Tobacco yield was 1,400 pounds per acre for 2002, down 100 pounds per acre from last year. Tobacco production came to 2.4 million pounds. Tobacco was harvested from 1,700 acres.

Winter wheat planted acres for harvest in 2003 is forecast at 150,000 acres, down 45,000 acres from 2002. Rain in October and November prevented farmers from planting some fields making this the smallest planted acreage since 1985.

United States: **Corn** for grain production is estimated at 9.01 billion bushels, virtually unchanged from the November forecast but down 5 percent from the 9.51 billion bushels produced in 2001. The average U.S. grain yield is estimated at 130.0 bushels per acre, 2.4 bushels above the November forecast but down 8.2 bushels from 2001.

Soybean production in 2002 totaled 2.73 billion bushels, up 1 percent from the November 1 forecast but 6 percent below 2001. The average yield per acre in 2002 is estimated at 37.8 bushels per acre, 0.3 bushel above the November 1 forecast but 1.8 bushels below the 2001 yield.

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Acreage, Yield, and Production, Maryland and United States, 2001- 2002

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
Maryland		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	490	510	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	410	425	136	76	55,760	32,300
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	75	80	15	12	1,125	960
Soybeans	BU	520	490	515	470	39	23	20,085	10,810
Sorghum ¹	BU	9	5	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	8	4	83	47	664	188
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	1	1	14	11	14	11
Winter Wheat	BU	190	195	175	180	63	66	11,025	11,880
Barley	BU	55	45	51	41	75	82	3,825	3,362
All Hay	TON	----	----	225	220	2.3	2.3	522	508
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	65	60	3.1	2.6	202	156
Other Hay	TON	----	----	160	160	2.0	2.2	320	352
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	2.2	1.7	1,500	1,400	3,300	2,380
Potatoes,Summer	CWT	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	250	250	1,175	1,175
United States		<i>1,000 Acres</i>						<i>1,000,000</i>	
Corn ¹	ACR	75,752	79,054	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	68,808	69,313	138.2	130	9,507	9,008
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	6,148	7,490	17	14	102	105
Soybeans	BU	74,075	73,758	72,975	72,160	39.6	37.8	2,891	2,730
Sorghum ¹	BU	10,252	9,580	----	----	----	----	----	----
Sorghum Grain	BU	----	----	8,584	7,299	59.9	50.7	515	370
Sorghum Silage	TON	----	----	336	352	11.1	9.5	4	3
Wheat, Winter	BU	41,078	41,735	31,295	29,651	43.5	38.5	1,361	1,143
Barley	BU	4,967	5,073	4,289	4,135	58.0	55	249	227
All Hay	TON	----	----	63,521	64,497	2.00	2.00	157	151
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	23,822	23,135	3.37	3.19	80	74
Other Hay	TON	----	----	39,699	41,362	1.93	1.86	76	77
Tobacco	LBS	----	----	432.3	430.3	2,293	2,068	992	890
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	61.1	63.0	58.8	59.9	310	309	18	18

¹ Acres planted is for all purposes.